

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05788.0189

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation of:

PCT/EP00/04134

Inventor: Giacomo Stefano ROBA et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: November 1, 2001

For: METHOD AND INDUCTION FURNACE  
FOR DRAWING LARGE DIAMETER  
PREFORMS TO OPTICAL FIBRES

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following heading and new paragraph as follows:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

a' This application is a continuation of international application number  
PCT/EP00/04134, filed May 9, 2000, the content of which is incorporated herein by  
reference, and claims the priority of European Patent Application No. 99109154.7, filed

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REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple claim dependency, to conform them to customary U.S. practice and to conform them to the Article 34 amendment made in the corresponding PCT International Application No. PCT/EP00/04134. Claims 27-50 are pending in this application. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

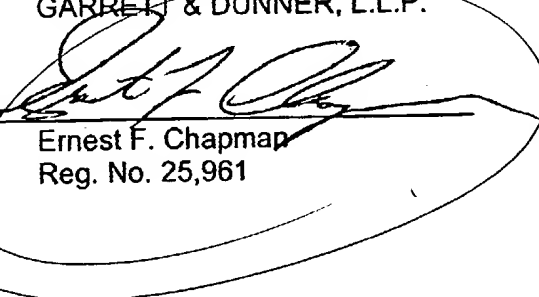
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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Dated: November 1, 2001

By:

  
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